

PTO/PCT Rec'd 12 AUG 2002

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: VAN SCHAFTINGEN et al.

Serial No.: 10/088,675

Filed: March 21, 2002

FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CLOSING A TANK  
OPENING

Examiner:

Art Unit:

Docket No.:  
P07569US00/WEJ

Patent

#7/Re Amata  
5.14.03  
luPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C.

S I R:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

A clean version of the amended claims is provided herewith in **Attachment A**. It will be noted that the claims have been amended relative to the previously provided version as shown by the marked up version thereof in **Attachment B** provided herewith.

REMARKS

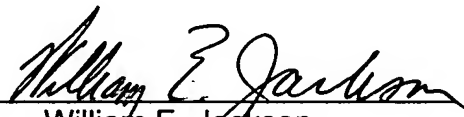
By this Amendment, the claims have been rewritten to reduce the multiple dependencies.

Further and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2002

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